

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

(Caption of Case)

Joint Petition of AT&T Communications of the
Southern States, LLC; BellSouth
Telecommunications, Inc. d/b/a AT&T South
Carolina; South Carolina Telephone Coalition, United
Telephone Company of the Carolinas d/b/a Embarq,
Verizon South, Incorporated; and Windstream South
Carolina, Inc. for Generic and Standing Protective
Order Regarding Information Submitted Pursuant to
Commission Regulations 103-618 and 103-619

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COVER SHEET

DOCKET

NUMBER: _____ - _____ - _____

(Please type or print)

Submitted by: Jennifer K. Stone

SC Bar Number: 74153

Telephone: 803.401.2903

Fax: 803.254.1731

Other: _____

Address: Suite 5200

1600 Williams Street

Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Email: jennifer.stone@att.com

NOTE: The cover sheet and information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law. This form is required for use by the Public Service Commission of South Carolina for the purpose of docketing and must be filled out completely.

DOCKETING INFORMATION (Check all that apply)

☐ Emergency Relief demanded in petition☐ Request for item to be placed on Commission's Agenda expeditiously☐ Other: _____

INDUSTRY (Check one)	NATURE OF ACTION (Check all that apply)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric	<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric/Gas	<input type="checkbox"/> Agreement	<input type="checkbox"/> Memorandum
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric/Telecommunications	<input type="checkbox"/> Answer	<input type="checkbox"/> Motion
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric/Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Appellate Review	<input type="checkbox"/> Objection
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric/Water/Telecom.	<input type="checkbox"/> Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric/Water/Sewer	<input type="checkbox"/> Brief	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition for Reconsideration
<input type="checkbox"/> Gas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certificate	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition for Rulemaking
<input type="checkbox"/> Railroad	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition for Rule to Show Cause
<input type="checkbox"/> Sewer	<input type="checkbox"/> Complaint	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Intervene
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Telecommunications	<input type="checkbox"/> Consent Order	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Intervene Out of Time
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Discovery	<input type="checkbox"/> Prefiled Testimony
<input type="checkbox"/> Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Exhibit	<input type="checkbox"/> Promotion
<input type="checkbox"/> Water/Sewer	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Consideration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Proposed Order-Exhibit A
<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Matter	<input type="checkbox"/> Interconnection Agreement	<input type="checkbox"/> Protest
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Interconnection Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Publisher's Affidavit
	<input type="checkbox"/> Late-Filed Exhibit	<input type="checkbox"/> Report
		<input type="checkbox"/> Request
		<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Certification
		<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Investigation
		<input type="checkbox"/> Resale Agreement
		<input type="checkbox"/> Resale Amendment
		<input type="checkbox"/> Reservation Letter
		<input type="checkbox"/> Response
		<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Discovery
		<input type="checkbox"/> Return to Petition
		<input type="checkbox"/> Stipulation
		<input type="checkbox"/> Subpoena
		<input type="checkbox"/> Tariff
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Joint Petition

Print Form

Reset Form

Jennifer K. Stone

Attorney at Law

1600 Williams St., Suite 5200 T: 803.401.2903
Columbia, SC 29201 F: 803.254.1731

jennifer.stone@att.com

October 16, 2007

The Honorable Charles Terreni
Chief Clerk of the Commission
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
Post Office Drawer 11649
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Re: Joint Petition of AT&T Communications of the Southern States, LLC;
BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. d/b/a AT&T South Carolina; South
Carolina Telephone Coalition, United Telephone Company of the Carolinas
d/b/a Embarq, Verizon South, Incorporated; and Windstream South Carolina,
Inc. for Generic and Standing Protective Order Regarding Information
Submitted Pursuant to Commission Regulations 103-618 and 103-619
Docket No.

Dear Mr. Terreni:

Enclosed for filing are an original and one (1) copy of a Joint Petition for Generic and
Standing Protective Order Regarding Information Provided Pursuant to Commission
Regulations 103-618 and 103-619 in the above-referenced matter.

By copy of this letter, I am serving all parties of record with a copy of this document
as indicated on the attached Certificate of Service.

Sincerely,



Jennifer K. Stone

JKS/nml

Enclosure

cc: All Parties of Record

DM5 #693475

**THIS DOCUMENT IS AN EXACT DUPLICATE OF THE E-FILED COPY SUBMITTED TO THE
COMMISSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS ELECTRONIC FILING INSTRUCTIONS.**

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN RE: Joint Petition of AT&T Communications of)
 the Southern States, LLC; BellSouth)
 Telecommunications, Inc. d/b/a AT&T South)
 Carolina; South Carolina Telephone)
 Coalition, United Telephone Company of the
 Carolinas d/b/a Embarq, Verizon South, Inc.;
 and Windstream South Carolina, Inc. for
 Generic and Standing Protective Order
 Regarding Information Submitted Pursuant to
 Commission Regulations 103-618 and 103-
 619

DOCKET NO. _____

**JOINT PETITION FOR
GENERIC AND STANDING PROTECTIVE ORDER
REGARDING INFORMATION PROVIDED PURSUANT TO
COMMISSION REGULATIONS 103-618 AND 103-619**

AT&T Communications of the Southern States, LLC; BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. d/b/a AT&T South Carolina; South Carolina Telephone Coalition, United Telephone Company of the Carolinas d/b/a Embarq, Verizon South, Inc. and Windstream South Carolina, Inc. (collectively "Joint Petitioners") jointly and respectfully request that the Public Service Commission of South Carolina enter a generic and standing Protective Order regarding information that any telephone utility provides to the Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") pursuant to Commission Regulation 103-618 and/or 103-619. The Joint Petitioners have consulted with the ORS and confirmed that the ORS has no objection to this Petition.

As recently amended, Commission Regulation 103-618 requires telephone utilities to provide certain service reports to the ORS on a quarterly basis, and Commission Regulation 103-619 requires telephone utilities to provide certain additional information to the ORS on a quarterly basis. Most telephone utilities consider the information provided pursuant to these Regulations to contain confidential, proprietary, and competitively sensitive information that is not generally published. Thus, when this information was filed with the Commission under the prior Regulations, most telephone utilities filed the information along with accompanying requests that the Commission afford confidential treatment to the information. The Commission traditionally has granted these requests for confidential treatment.

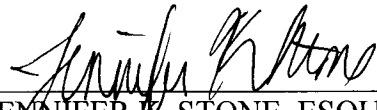
Continuing this case-by-case approach under the amended Regulations would require telephone utilities to individually petition the Commission for confidential treatment each time such information is provided to the ORS. This, in turn, would require the Commission to separately docket, decide, and issue an order addressing each individual petition. The Joint Petitioners respectfully submit that it would be more efficient and less costly for all involved if the Commission were to enter a generic and standing protective order that affords confidential treatment to information that all telephone utilities provide to the ORS pursuant to Commission Regulations 103-618 and/or 103-619.

The Joint Petitioners, therefore, respectfully request that the Commission enter a generic and standing order granting confidential and proprietary treatment of information that all telephone utilities provide to the ORS pursuant to Commission Regulation 103-618 and/or 103-619. Exhibit A to this Petition is a Proposed Order to that effect for the

Commission's consideration. This Proposed Order is consistent with prior Commission Orders that grant proprietary treatment on a standing basis.¹


Respectfully submitted on this ____th day of October, 2007.

AT&T COMMUNICATIONS OF THE
SOUTHERN STATES, LLC



JENNIFER K. STONE, ESQUIRE
Suite 5200
1600 Williams Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

BELLSOUTH
TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.
D/B/A AT&T SOUTH CAROLINA



JENNIFER K. STONE, ESQUIRE
Suite 5200
1600 Williams Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

691963

¹ See, e.g., Standing Protective Order, *In Re: Petition of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. for Standing Protective Order Regarding Information Submitted Pursuant to Commission Regulation 103-614*, Order No. 2006-777 in Docket No. 2006-371-C (December 15, 2006).

SOUTH CAROLINA TELEPHONE
COALITION

Margaret M. Fox

M. JOHN BOWEN, JR., ESQUIRE

MARGARET M. FOX, ESQUIRE

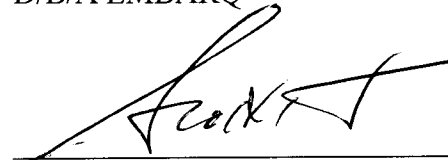
McNair Law Firm, P. A.

Bank of America Tower

1301 Gervais Street, 11th Floor

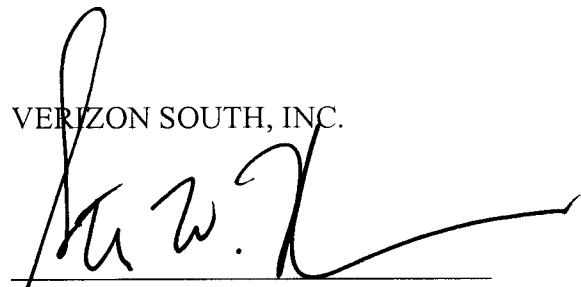
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

UNITED TELEPHONE COMPANY OF
THE CAROLINAS
D/B/A EMBARQ

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott A. Elliott", written over a horizontal line.

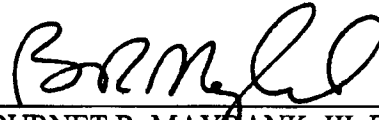
SCOTT A. ELLIOTT, ESQUIRE
Elliott & Elliott
721 Olive Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29205

VERIZON SOUTH, INC.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. W. Hamm', written over a horizontal line.

STEVEN W. HAMM, ESQUIRE
Richardson Plowden Carpenter & Robinson,
P.A.
Post Office Drawer 7788
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

WINDSTREAM SOUTH CAROLINA,
INC.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Burnet R. Maybank, III". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "B" and a stylized "M".

BURNET R. MAYBANK, III, ESQUIRE
Nexsen Pruet Adams Kleemeier, LLC
Post Office Box 2426
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

EXHIBIT A

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 2007-____-C – ORDER NO. 2007-____

IN RE:	Joint Petition of AT&T Communications of)	
	the Southern States, LLC; BellSouth)	STANDING
	Telecommunications, Inc. d/b/a AT&T South)	PROTECTIVE ORDER
	Carolina; South Carolina Telephone)	
	Coalition, United Telephone Company of the)	
	Carolinas d/b/a Embarq, Verizon South, Inc.;)	
	and Windstream South Carolina, Inc. for)	
	Generic and Standing Protective Order)	
	Regarding Information Submitted Pursuant to)	
	Commission Regulations 103-618 and 103-)	
	619)	

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the Joint Petition AT&T Communications of the Southern States, LLC; BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. d/b/a AT&T South Carolina; South Carolina Telephone Coalition, United Telephone Company of the Carolinas d/b/a Embarq, Verizon South, Inc., and Windstream South Carolina, Inc. (collectively “Joint Petitioners”) for a generic and standing Protective Order regarding information that any telephone utility provides to the Office of Regulatory Staff (“ORS”) pursuant to Commission Regulation 103-618 and/or 103-619. The Joint Petitioners have informed the Commission that they have consulted with the ORS and confirmed that the ORS has no objection to this Petition. For the reasons set forth below, the Commission has determined that the Motion should be granted, and we hereby adopt the following Order to facilitate the timely and efficient provision of information required by Regulations

103-618 and/or 103-619 while adequately protecting material entitled to be kept confidential.

As recently amended, Commission Regulation 103-618 requires telephone utilities to provide certain service reports to the ORS on a quarterly basis, and Commission Regulation 103-619 requires telephone utilities to provide certain additional information to the ORS on a quarterly basis. The Joint Petitioners state in their Petition that most telephone utilities consider the information provided pursuant to these Regulations to contain confidential, proprietary, and competitively sensitive information that is not generally published. Thus, when this information was filed with the Commission under the prior Regulations, most telephone utilities filed the information along with accompanying requests that the Commission afford confidential treatment to the information. The Commission traditionally has granted these requests for confidential treatment.

The Joint Petitioners state that continuing this case-by-case approach under the amended Regulations would require telephone utilities to individually petition the Commission for confidential treatment each time such information is provided to the ORS. They state that this, in turn, would require the Commission to separately docket, decide, and issue an order addressing each individual petition. The Joint Petitioners submit that it would be more efficient and less costly for all involved if the Commission were to enter a generic and standing protective order that affords confidential treatment to information that all telephone utilities provide to the ORS pursuant to Commission Regulations 103-618 and/or 103-619.

We agree, and we therefore find and order that:

1. Information that any telephone utility provides to the ORS pursuant to Commission Regulations 103-618 and/or 103-619 should be afforded confidential and proprietary treatment.

2. When required to provide information to the ORS pursuant to Commission Regulation 103-618 and/or 103-619, a telephone utility shall submit: (a) a proprietary, unredacted copy of the information in a sealed envelope with each page marked “Confidential” in red ink, or with other markings that are reasonably calculated to alert custodians of the materials to their confidential or proprietary nature; and (b) a public copy of the information that redacts the specific information that is entitled to confidential and proprietary treatment. The proprietary copy shall not be available for public inspection, and the public copy shall be available for public inspection

3. Persons or entities may apply to the Commission for a ruling that materials designated as proprietary pursuant to this Order are not entitled to such status and protection from public disclosure. In that event, the telephone utility that designated the materials as proprietary shall be given notice of the application and a reasonable opportunity to respond. The materials that are subject to such an application shall continue to be protected from public disclosure unless the Commission enters an Order to the contrary.

4. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

G. O'Neal Hamilton, Chairman

ATTEST:

C. Robert Moseley, Vice Chairman

(SEAL)

691980

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
) CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
COUNTY OF RICHLAND)

The undersigned, Nyla M. Laney, hereby certifies that she is employed by the Legal Department for BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.'s d/b/a AT&T South Carolina ("AT&T") Joint Petition for Generic and Standing Protective Order Regarding Information Provided Pursuant to Commission Regulations 103-618 and 103-619 to be served upon the following this 16th day of October, 2007:

Florence P. Belser, Esquire
General Counsel
Office of Regulatory Staff
1441 Main Street, Suite 300
Columbia, South Carolina 29201
(U. S. Mail and Electronic Mail)

F. David Butler, Esquire
Senior Counsel
S. C. Public Service Commission
Post Office Box 11649
Columbia, South Carolina 29211
(PSC Staff)
(U. S. Mail and Electronic Mail)

Joseph Melchers
Chief Counsel
S.C. Public Service Commission
Post Office Box 11649
Columbia, South Carolina 29211
(PSC Staff)
(U.S. Mail and Electronic Mail)

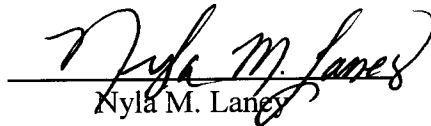
Jocelyn G. Boyd, Esquire
Staff Attorney
S. C. Public Service Commission
Post Office Box 11649
Columbia, South Carolina 29211
(PSC Staff)
(U. S. Mail and Electronic Mail)

Scott A, Elliott, Esquire
Elliott & Elliott
721 Olive Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29205
(United Telephone Company of the
Carolinas d/b/a Embarq)
(U. S. Mail and Electronic Mail)

Margaret M. Fox, Esquire
McNair Law Firm, P.A.
Bank of America Tower
1301 Gervais Street, 17th Floor
Columbia, SC 29201
(South Carolina Telephone Coalition)
(U.S. Mail and Electronic Mail)

Steven W. Hamm, Esquire
Richardson Plowden Carpenter & Robinson, P.A.
Post Office Drawer 7788
Columbia, South Carolina 29202
(Verizon South, Incorporated)
(U. S. Mail and Electronic Mail)

Burnet R. Maybank, III, Esquire
Nexsen Pruet Adams Kleemeier, LLC
Post Office Box 2426
Columbia, South Carolina 29202
(Windstream South Carolina, Inc.)
(U. S. Mail and Electronic Mail)


Nyla M. Laney